

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

VOLUME V.

MEXICO, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI, THURSDAY, NOV. 26, 1903.

NUMBER 4

HAPPENED and HAPPENING.

SOME LOCAL AND COUNTY NEWS IN PELLET FORM

Corn is selling in Gaut neighborhood at \$1.60 a bbl.

S. W. Downing, at Saling, is feeding 71 head of cattle.

H. E. C. Tucker and family will move back to Mexico from Perry.

W. P. Moser of Farber will move to Martinsburg and open up a meat shop.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Sims of Gantt are the proud parents of a new daughter.

James Kile, southwest of Mexico, has been in very bad health since last August.

James Cadell, of the U. S. army, is visiting his sister, Mrs. Robert Peek, of near Rowena, this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Harper of Louisiana will move to Mexico. Mr. Harper is a trainman on the C. & A.

David Robertson, son of Attorney George Robertson, has a fine position with a glass factory at Alton, Ill.

Wm. Detienne and wife have moved back to the Mt. Carmel neighborhood, this county, from Louisiana.

A. Hughes of this city attended a school of instruction of the Modern Woodmen of America held at Sedalia last week. Mr. Hughes read a paper on the subject, "How Much Territory Should a Camp Have."

Phil Quisenberry at Santa Fe is feeding 27 head of fine Shorthorn cattle. He bought seven head of Shorthorn cows and heifers at the Emmons sale in this city recently, paying an average price of \$57 per head.

Rollie Torreyson has given up his abode at Segundo, Colorado, and has moved back to the old homestead near Laddonia, this county. He does this on account of the death of his father, T. T. Torreyson, not long since—to look after the home place and care for his mother.

The funeral services of W. W. Harper were held at the Baptist church in this city last Friday afternoon, conducted by his pastor, Rev. H. E. Truex, and by Rev. J. C. Armstrong of St. Louis. The burial was under the auspices of the Masonic order. The pall bearers from the Masonic lodge were: J. J. Steele, R. H. Edmonds, J. A. Glandon, J. D. Morris, J. A. Potts and Wm. Pollock.

An observation by the St. Louis Globe Democrat: Dame Rumor is just now busy with the names of two young people of the fashionable set whose engagement, while denied by them, is confidently expected to be announced within a very short time. Miss Elizabeth Robertson of Mexico, Mo., is the young lady concerned, and Mr. Oliver Garrison the lucky man. Miss Robertson has been spending the winter in St. Louis studying music, and her talent has been spoken of as unusual. She is a sister of Mrs. Fred Bronaugh, who, as Miss Sue M. Robertson, was such a belle in St. Louis society, and spent a great deal of time here with Mrs. Paul Brown. Miss Robertson has gone out a great deal, and her most devoted cavalier has ever been Mr. Garrison, a fact which has given much food for speculation. Altho the young lady denies the soft impeachment, those in close touch with her affairs whisper rumors of a late winter wedding.

Unloading material for the Burlington cut-off railroad at Benton City.

D. H. Athey is building a residence for J. L. Shotwell, near Farber.

Miss Callie Rosser, of Rush Hill, will study music in Chicago this winter.

C. McGinnis of Rowena purchased a mule of John Gritton, paying \$182.50.

Martinsburg is to have a rural free delivery route. It will run north and west of Martinsburg.

H. J. Dungan, south of town, is up and around again after a six weeks siege with typhoid fever.

W. B. Allen of Columbia, formerly a citizen of Mexico, has invented a device for piano action, which it is thought will revolutionize piano construction.

Mrs. E. H. Skelly of this county is visiting the family of D. E. Elder at Pilot Point, Texas. She writes back that the weather is cold and changeable down that way.

Porter Wright is suing his wife, Cora Wright, for divorce. The petition states that they were married in March, 1901, and that about January 1, 1903, the wife deserted him.

Rev. A. A. Wallace of this city has been elected pastor of the Presbyterian church at Independence, Mo. Our people would regret to see Bro. Wallace leave Mexico.

There were three births in Rush Hill last week: A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Willingham, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Myers and a son to Mr. and Mrs. George Downs.

The new Beaver Dam Baptist church, south of Mexico, was dedicated last Sunday. The pastor of this church is Rev. Elmer Bradley. The old church house was torn down a couple of months since.

A burglar entered J. T. Johnson's home in this city last Thursday night and carried away Mr. Johnson's \$130 gold watch, besides getting about \$23.50 in money. Mr. Johnson had left the front door unlocked.

Bishop D. S. Tuttle of St. Louis preached at the Presbyterian church in Farber last Sunday. Bishop Tuttle represents the Episcopal church, and our good friend down at Farber, Wm. Machin, is the only member of that denomination in his town.

The Vandalia Leader says a bee tree was found by W. F. Pritchett on Judge Guy McCune's land. The tree measured about 3 feet in diameter. About twenty feet from the ground a swarm of bees was discovered and ten feet higher up a second swarm was found. On Monday Judge McCune and Mr. Pritchett cut down the tree and took from the hives more than one hundred pounds of honey.

A notice by the Sturgeon Leader: Noble Barnes of Audrain county was here Tuesday for the purpose of adjusting the insurance on Mrs. Kate Burke's loss by fire. Her barn burned recently. He allowed her \$256, and he represented the Farmer's Mutual Co. of Audrain county. Mr. Barnes told the Leader that the majority of the Democrats in his action were for Folk for Governor.

A SUICIDE.

William Johnson Ends His Life With a Butcher Knife.

Dr. C. T. Varnon held a "view inquest" over the body of William Johnson at Laddonia last Friday. It was a case of suicide, no doubt, but the man must have been somewhat demented also to end his life as he did.

There were but three witnesses called. R. A. Johnson, a son, testified as follows:

"Found him dead between 8 and 9 o'clock. He did not appear to be cold. He was walking about at about 7 a. m. Was not anyone with him that I know of up to the time I found him dead. The butcher knife that he used was sticking in his shirt front part when I first found him. Found him in the barn. He was 79 years of age. Has two children, one son, aged 34; one daughter, aged 36 years, both married. Had wished he was dead a good many times. His wife, my mother, died two years ago. Father said he was tired of life because he couldn't do anything in the way of work. A week or two ago he left, went to the country, staid about three days, wouldn't come home, said he didn't want to stay with me any longer. I had to bring him home partly by force, partly in wagon. Never showed any signs of being demented. Was at Henry Haycraft's when he went off to country. I am satisfied he killed himself."

Mrs. Hattie Johnson Kendall, a daughter, testified: "Am a daughter of the dead lying here. I have no suspicion of foul play or felony in deceased's death. Think it was purely suicide. It was about 9 a. m. when I first saw him. Don't know what caused him to kill himself."

John Akridge, a nearby neighbor, testified:

"The family and Mr. Johnson got along all right. He was always busy, but could not do much except job work around the house. About 8 or 8:30 I first saw him dead. He could not have been dead longer than half an hour. I saw him about 8 a. m. a little while before, with a water bucket going towards the pond. He had been afflicted a good deal with rheumatism. I have heard him say he wanted to die; has wanted to die for several years. The butcher knife, the knife found sticking in his body, belonged at the house where he lived and it was the one he used to cut kindling with. He was lying on his face with mouth and nose in the dust. When we raised him up the knife was found with which he stabbed himself. He stabbed thru his undershirt, but did not cut outside."

Curt Smith of Gant neighborhood has moved to Benton City.

Mrs. E. B. Keath, Jr., and two little children came near losing their lives one night last week by escaping gas from a hard coal stove. Mr. Keath was out of the city. The stove had just been put up the day before, and when a fire was started the gas settled in the room, as it was afterwards learned the flue was stopped with mortar. At about midnight Mrs. Keath awakened in a very stupefied condition and tried to crawl to the telephone but fainted in the attempt, but she managed to get a window partly open. One of the little boys cried that he was choking to death. Mrs. Keath fainted again and when she and the children awoke in the morning they were in a serious condition, caused from the choking gas and from vomiting. Later in the day they fully recovered. It was a narrow escape for all.

Quit, That's the Way.

The Farmington, Iowa, News editor recently celebrated a great event and tells of it in the following plain, comprehensive and suggestive language:

"The News man is celebrating to day. Just twelve months ago, we took our last drop of 'booze.' For the last year we have been free from the most infernal hankering appetite that ever held dominion over men. We have no 'crow to pick' with those of our friends who talk prohibition, neither do we feel like abusing those who are experiencing the same old 'hankering' we used to feel. Neither abuse or coaxing weans a man from the pint bottle. It takes a heavy club to knock a little sense into the head of a chronic inebriate. Ninety per cent of the men who 'booze' do not want to 'booze'—they dread whisky—they despise it—they can't throw off the nerve-killing, nerve-racking, soul-destroying appetite; they daily pledge themselves 'this is the last.' There is no formula for quitting. There is only one way to quit and that is to quit. Quit it and in two months you will be stepping around like a yearling colt—you will keep wondering why you traveled the pace that kills, or down the path that leads to everlasting ruin. Why do we 'booze?' The man who does cannot tell. Twelve months have gone by and we are celebrating the day by keeping sober, sticking type, running the old Prouty press and trying to justify the confidence of our fellow men. Good by to the old gallon jug; farewell to the pint bottle; we have had no use for them since this day one year ago. There is only one way to quit, and that is to QUIT."

The Warrenton Banner has the following praise for a Republican official of this State: Eleven months of exacting, persistent, ceaseless labor by Norton and his helpers in exposing the naturalization frauds makes the record read as follows: Total number of indictments found by grand jury, 238. Of these, 129 are against the officers of a branch of the Democratic Jefferson club, 18 are against the chairman of a Democratic committee, 18 are against the marshal of the court of appeals, 10 are against a captain of police, 36 against a policeman, and 11 against one of the secretaries to the governor of Missouri. The president of the Hebrew branch of the club referred to has been tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary. The president of the Italian branch has gone the same road, and thru the tireless, faithful and persistent efforts of Mr. Norton many more of the guilty ones will follow the path to the pen. Praise him to whom praise is due—Norton deserves it.

Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Patterson are entertaining their daughter, Mrs. Anderson of Monroe City.

Our "David Moses" letter last week contained one egregious error. "Tom Benton," was it Tennyson or Longfellow who wrote "Evangeline?"

Repeated from the Middletown Chips: Mrs. Mollie Jenkins of Mexico was here the past week and on Saturday last successfully removed from the face of Mrs. A. F. Butler a cancer that had been growing the past sixteen years. This was accomplished, too, in a treatment of ten days from time of beginning. The cancer was nearly flat and about the size of a silver dollar. Mrs. Butler is now comparatively well, as there is no inflammation whatever resulting from the course of treatment. Of course both ladies are very much gratified at the results obtained.

L. L. Spencer of Rushville, Ill., has moved to Centralia, Mo., to reside.

A Folk for Governor club was organized at Boonville last week with 410 members.

Mrs. Ezra Lewton, north of Laddonia, visited the family of Wm. Meeks in Mexico a few days last week.

W. W. Barrett of Centralia has organized a new bank at Wells-ville. It will have a capital stock of \$15,000.

Mr. Harrison F. Barnes of Elk City, Ok., and Miss Martha Everhart, north of Sturgeon, were married in Centralia last Wednesday.

Prof. L. J. Mitchell has been chosen superintendent of the Centralia schools to fill out the unexpired term caused by the death of Prof. Muir.

See advertisement in this paper of George Bingham, breeder of Poland China hogs, at Hickory Park Stock Farm, 2 miles south of Mexico, Mo.

The cause of temperance is making headway in Germany. The Imperial Board of Health has just issued a statement, declaring that "total abstinence from strong drink is not injurious to health."

Centralia has a public library. It is open to the public Tuesday and Friday of each week. The officers are: J. K. Pool, president; R. L. Gray, vice-president; Miss Pearl Thomas, secretary; Mrs. J. M. Crockett, treasurer; Mesdames Julia Thomas, J. T. Mitchell, J. M. Crockett, executive committee; Mrs. Anna B. Willis, librarian.

The Moberly Monitor tells of a school examiner who gave the class the following problem: "If a horse can run a mile in one minute and 50 seconds and another can run in two minutes, how far would the first horse be ahead in a match race of two miles?" A little girl—the daughter of a Methodist minister—returned the question with this notation: "I'll have nothing to do with horse racing."

Hon. Champ Clark has introduced the following bills in Congress: To place on the free list agricultural implements, wood pulp, printing paper, binding twine and other materials. Also to remove the import duty on salt. Also appropriate \$50,000 for improvement of the Missouri River near Bernheimer. Also \$50,000 for improvement of Hermann Harbor, Missouri River, and \$50,000 for a public building at Louisiana, Mo.

The Farber Forum says: Hon. E. W. Major has said he is a candidate for Attorney General of this great State. Senator Major is one of the noblest men you ever met, a thoro student of law, and a man of splendid legal attainments. He can make a speech, too. Mr. Major will make his formal announcement next week, and the Forum is in a position to say that he contemplates making one of the most thoro and aggressive campaigns ever made in the State.

One of the unique features of the Short Course in Agriculture in the University of Missouri the 6th of January is a corn school. For ten days nothing but corn will be taught, talked, or seen. How to breed it, how to grow it, and how to feed it will be the subjects considered. And why should corn growing not be taught in our University? According to the census of 1900 Missouri raised 7,423,683 bushels of corn in 1899 worth more than \$2,000,000. The output of all Missouri's mines for the same period was worth little more than \$2,500,000. Our University teaches our boys to mine. Why should it not teach them to grow corn.

Self Praise Vs. Silent Duty.

Reward is always received with gratification by the worthy.

To the person who does his duty and then there comes to him a recognition of his services from his countrymen, he must feel elated over his success. But in the field of action there are those who always seek a reward and claim that their past services have been such that they merit it. Others do not do this, but let the course of events bring what it will.

In the political arena of this state today there are two men striving for the Governorship. This is an important office. In the language of one of the aspirants it is a position any one might well covet. One of the candidates is going over the State making speeches and giving his qualifications. The other seldom speaks, but is occupied with the duties of his office. One is Mayor of Kansas City, one of the greatest municipalities in the world. The other is Circuit Attorney of another city of importance, probably greater than the first.

Folk says he has done nothing to merit the place, that he has only performed the functions of his office. Reed says he has always worked for the ticket and made one hundred and ten speeches last campaign while Folk did not make one. Reed is using his past as a propellor for his gubernatorial airship. Folk is relying upon nothing which he has done, and says if he is not named by his party he will have no hard feelings.

That is the condition which confronts the party today. Reed is Mayor of a great city and is canvassing the State in order to secure another office. The position to which he has been elected by the people of Kansas City is being neglected by him but the salary is drawn just the same. Folk is holding his office and performing the duties which come before him. That is why he is making no speeches when Reed is de-

livering his one hundred and ten. That is why the Democracy did not receive his aid as a campaign orator. When election day came he went and voted his party ticket and knew he had done his duty.

The comparison is plain. Both are deserving, but is not the Mayor wronging his constituents by his actions? He boasts of his work and thinks reward is due him. The Circuit Attorney has silently and steadfastly met what has come before him and is letting the people have their say as to his reward. It is a case of self praise against silent duty. These facts will not be lost sight of when the man is to be chosen. Reward will go to one deserving to be sure, but is it not better to take the humble instead of the self-exalted? The ego will be lost in the shuffle, and Folk, the man who has stayed with his office, will reap his reward.—Ray County Review.

John King and wife, of near Middletown, have moved to Imboden, Kas., to reside.

Mrs. Watt Branstetter of Mt. Carmel locality, has been quite sick for a year and last week took worse.

H. S. Braden, rural mail carrier out to Long Branch postoffice, made this office a pleasant call last Thursday.

The Perry Enterprise states that Luther H. Biggers of Mexico was down that way the other day. Mr. Biggers was lately married, and the Enterprise says he was arguing with some of his old bachelor friends that they should go and do the same as he had done: thinks married life much better than living single.

"If a primary were held in Randolph county," county," says the Moberly (Mo.) Monitor (Dem.), "a jack-rabbit could not run fast enough to keep out of Mr. Folk's way. If those opposed to Folk do not believe this let them agree to a primary. The Monitor predicts that those who are against Mr. Folk will never consent to such an arrangement."

OUR XMAS STOCK

Is Now Ready For Your Inspection.



We are better than ever and our purchases have been larger than ever before.

We are particularly strong in

Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry.
Fine China and Cut Glass,

And are sure we can please you in regard to price and quality.

"Right Goods at Right Prices"

Prevail in all departments.

A Chance to Convince you that you can save money and get better goods when you buy of us is all we ask.

A Chance to Save from 10 to 20 per cent upon your Holiday purchases is what we offer. That alone should influence you towards us.

Will be glad to show whether you buy or not.

ENGRAVING FREE.

Pilcher Jewelry Company.

South of Ringo Hotel.

Mexico, Mo.